

JUNIOR OFFICER ADVISORY GROUP (JOAG)
UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE



General Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2013
1300 – 1500 EST

Call in number: (626) 677-3000
Passcode: 791-9605

I. Roll Call

a. LT Tracy Tilghman, JOAG Chair, took attendance by performing roll call

Voting Membership					
Attendance	Rank	Last Name	First Name	OPDIV	Category
✓	LCDR	Ford	Latonia	FDA	Nurse
✓	LCDR	Garza	Elizabeth	CDC	HSO
AA	LCDR	Gunn Jr.	Gene	FDA	HSO
AWA	LCDR	Holliday	Mitchel	BOP	Dietitian
	LCDR	Irvin	Kari		
✓	LCDR	Hudson	Heidi	CDC	HSO
✓	LCDR	Krueger	Liatte	FDA	PHARM
✓	LCDR	Lanier	William	FDA	Vet
✓	LCDR	McLanahan	Eva	EPA	EHO
AWA	LCDR	Ndu	Adora	FDA	PHARM
	LT	Corser	Christine		
✓	LCDR	Pihlaja	Krista	IHS	ENG
✓	LCDR	Sawyer	Kate	DOI	Med
	LCDR	Shields	Cathleen	DOD	THER
✓	LCDR	Snidow	Lori	DEN	IHS
AA	LCDR*	Smith	Damon	OFRD	HSO
AWA	LCDR	Steffen	Scott	FDA	Scientist
	LCDR	Bobo	Qiao	FDA	Scientist
AWA	LCDR	Stephenson	Racquel	CDC	EHO
	LCDR	Cole	Jessica	FDA	Scientist
✓	LCDR	Walther	Tina	FDA	HSO
✓	LT	Jolley	Chandra	PSC/FOH	Nurse
✓	LT	Okumura	Kazuhiro	FDA	EHO
AA	LT	Spindel	Samantha	FDA	ENG
✓	LT	Tilghman	Tracy	FDA	HSO

*Ex-Officio/Past Chair, non-voting member.

AA=Approved absence; AWA=absent with alternate; UA=Unapproved absence

II. Executive Committee Reports

**** No reports from Ex-officio or Chair Elect**

a. **Chair Report: LT Tracy Tilghman**

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Update on USPHS Joint Community Service Project
 - a. Health promotion fair
 - b. Tuesday, May 21 from 0900-1200
 - c. Location: Desert Senior Center
 - d. Requesting 14 officers
 - e. Transportation will be provided
2. Update regarding results from last General Meeting/Meet & Greet Survey (usage of video conferencing)
 - a. 39 officers participated with the Meet and Greet
 - b. Over 80% would like to see this again for General Meetings and Meet and Greet
 - c. We hope to use it in the future.

b. **Vice-Chair Report: LCDR Eva McLanahan**

i. No Updates

c. **Executive Secretary Report: LCDR Scott Steffen**

i. No Update

d. **Financial Liaison Report: LCDR Tina Walther**

i. Merchandise still available for purchase

1. Continuing to sell merchandise at reduced pricing until the end of April
2. Processing reimbursement for the gavel
3. Working on the protocol for the financial liaison position
4. Merchandise will be available at COF

ii. Accomplishments

1. Sold out of coin racks, core value coins, "not the navy" t-shirts

III. Committee Reports (names in bold presented the following reports)

a. **Awards Committee: LCDR Liatte Krueger & LCDR Adora Ndu provided by LT Corser**

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Award nominations have been received and de-identified. The nominations are now being reviewed by respective groups. Scores should be tallied and decision made by April 15. Thanks to all officers who applied and good luck.
2. Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal Initiative - Currently this group has met to discuss the analogous award amongst the other services. They have identified a similar military award and are in process of coming up with the details of the Corps version of the award, which may be named in Dr. Koop's honor. Details pending.
3. Commissioned Corps Awards Subcommittee - Currently this subcommittee is in the process of creating/updating an Awards Guidance document, which has been pending for several years. LT Sarah Lee will be leading this charge.

4. The next Awards Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, May 1, 2013 at 1200 EST. Teleconference information is: **Dial-in Number:** 712-432-0111; **Access Code:** 492866.
- ii. Accomplishments
 1. All our committees are hard at work. Thanks for all your contributions so far to our Committee.
 2. An email was sent out to the Committee Co-Chairs asking for them to recognize 2 non-voting members who have contributed outstanding amounts of time and energy to their Subcommittee. In addition, non-voting member Co-chairs and secretaries will be recognized.
 3. The Call for Nominations for the 3 JOAG Awards (JOAG Excellence, Junior Officer of the Year, and the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspirations) closed on February 1, 2013. We received a total of 30 nominations. LT Sara Azimi-Bolourian is the lead for the Junior Officer of the Year Award. LCDR Mathilda Fienkeng is the lead for the JOAG Excellence Award and LCDR Shannon Hill is the lead for the VADM Richard H. Carmona Inspiration Award.
- b. COF Planning Committee: LCDR Latonia Ford**
- i. Current Activities/Updates
 1. Wednesday, May 22, 2013 General Meeting and Meet/ Greet will be held 12:15 to 13:15 in the hotel
 2. Wednesday, May 22, 2013 after 8pm the JOAG Social will be held at McFadden's Restaurant and Saloon, 9425 West Coyotes Blvd. Glendale, AZ at 1900 PM local time.
 3. Wednesday, May 22, 2013 COF APFT Walk/Run will be held at 0600 at the Renaissance Hotel 6096 N 91st Ave., Glendale, AZ (Northwest Corner of 91st Ave. and Bethany Home Rd.).
 4. Merchandise booth will be near the COF registration booth
 5. Uniform inspections booth will be located in the exhibit hall
 - ii. Accomplishments
 1. Meeting February 21, 2013 with 12 in attendance
 2. Meeting March 21, 2013 with 15 in attendance
 3. Logistic (volunteer) Committee meeting February 27, 2013
 - iii. Our next meeting is scheduled April 18, 2013 @ 14:30 EST
- c. Communications & Publications Committee: LCDR Gene Gunn & LCDR William Lanier**
- i. Current Activities/Updates
 1. Call to JOs for articles for the Spring 2013 Issue of the JOAG Journal.
 2. Google Analytics is now working for the JOAG website, allowing tallying of visits and page views. Since initiation in February 2012, Google Analytics has tallied over 1,000 visits to the JOAG website.
 3. The Uniform Subcommittee of the JOAG Communications and Publications Committee is seeking ideas for the USPHS-related "Trivia" section of "With Pride and Distinction," a periodic publication about USPHS uniforms. Contact LCDR

Kristina Estes (Kristina.Estes@fda.hhs.gov) or LCDR Jessica Schwarz (Jessica.Schwarz@ihs.gov) if you have ideas or are interested in volunteering.

4. The next meeting will be on May 15th at 1400 EST.

ii. Accomplishments

1. Winter 2013 Issue of the JOAG Journal published.
2. Numerous updates to the JOAG website.

d. Development Committee: LCDR Kate Sawyer & LT Kazuhiro Okumura

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Ordering merchandise this week.
2. Setting the booth staffing schedule. The announcement for the booth schedule will be released next week.
3. Slogan T-shirt was cancelled due to budget constraints. The submitters of the slogans have been notified.

ii. Accomplishments

1. We are not the Navy t-shirt design was finalized and ordered last week.
2. Final design of the dog tags and toiletry bag was finalized.

e. Public Health and Community Service Committee: LCDR Mitchel Holliday provided by LCDR Kari Irvin

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. The Uniformed Service Community Service Projects Subcommittee and other uniformed services will be assisting with the Potomac River Watershed Cleanup from 0800-1200 on Saturday, April 20, 2013, at Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, DC. USPHS volunteers will work alongside volunteers from the US Air Force and US Navy. We hope to have as many volunteers as possible. Family members and friends are welcome as well.
2. The names of volunteers (including family members and friends) must be submitted by **COB April 12, 2013**. If you are interested in participating or have any questions, please contact: LCDR Sara Camilli (USPHS/JOAG) Lead Sara.Camilli@fda.hhs.gov LT Dana Robison (USPHS/JOAG) Co-Lead DRobison@cdc.gov or review the JOAG Listserv announcement sent out by LT Tilghman on March 27th.
3. The next meeting is on May 7th at 1200 EST.

f. Membership Committee: LCDR Lori Snidow & LT Chandra Jolley

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Meet and Greet - upcoming M&G in following cities : Monday, April 22, 2013 Eloy ICE 1330-1430 MT; Tuesday, April 23, 2013 FDA, White Oak Campus 1500-1600 ET; Wednesday, April 24, 2013 Parker IHS 1200-1230 MT
2. CAD - 95 emails sent out in Feb and March, will be contacting newly promoted LT and LCDRs inviting them to JOAG
3. Website - now headed by SRCOSTEP Eric Wong
4. SOP - finalizing version that employs new format, should be ready to submit to EC within next few weeks
5. VM - 38 total nominations that will be passed to VMs for scoring, working on ideas as we progress through this process to both streamline information flow and to

- identify/encourage involvement in officers from categories whose PAC Liaisons have historically been difficult to fill
6. The next meeting will be on June 12th at 1300 EST.
- ii. Accomplishments
1. 38 applications for VM vetted. 39th application was withdrawn after officer was determined to be eligible for promotion next year.

g. Policy and Procedures Committee: LCDR Racquel Stephenson provided by LCDR Jessica Cole

- i. Current Activities/Updates
1. P&P, in conjunction with the EC, has updated the JOAG SOP template which was provided to all JOAG Voting Members on March 25th. Committee Chairs/Co-Chairs will move forward with using this new template for their Committee SOPs.
2. The next meeting will on June 6th at 1500 EST.
- ii. Accomplishments
1. We have reviewed and provided edits to the COF Planning and Awards Committees' SOPs. The Professional Development Committee's SOP is currently under review and we are anticipating more SOP submissions from the remaining JOAG Committees. The Policy Development and Training Subcommittee published an article in the winter issue of the JOAG Journal that details the Policy Development and Information Dissemination Survey results.

h. Professional Development Committee: LCDR Elizabeth Garza & LCDR Heidi Hudson

- i. Current Activities/Updates
1. JOAG Journal: Article titled: 'USPHS Leadership Training: Learning from Our Stars' will be posted in next edition. This article is about the 2012 leadership course at USPHS Scientific and Leadership Symposium.
2. Seeking additional members for JOAG Professional Development Survey Subcommittee. If you are interested, contact LCDR Kashif Iqbal kai9@cdc.gov. Seeking volunteers to help with Mentoring Subcommittee Job Shadowing Program. If you are interested, please contact LCDR Shani Smith shani.smith@fda.hhs.gov
3. We are still waiting information from National HOSA concerning moving forward with pilot programs. Thanks to LCDR Gwenivere Rose, we are looking at moving into assisting HOSA with judging of competitions in the meantime. This is allowing us to get in the door with the local chapters, and increase exposure of JOAG within HOSA. We have had a few officers already take part in the state judging competitions. Looking forward to hearing their feedback to see how judging went and will report on this during the next meeting.
4. The JOAG Professional Development Committee is looking for volunteers to join the JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth subcommittee. The JOAG Uniform Inspection Booth is a service provided by JOAG for all officers in the Commissioned Corps. Specifically officers are needed to help with the UIB at the FDA (White Oak) PHS Awareness Day May 14, 2013 as well as the USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium May 21-23, 2013. If you are interested in volunteering to support this subcommittee, please contact LT Katie Hager (Katie.Hager@hhs.gov).

5. Our next meeting PD-C meeting is scheduled for Monday May 13th at 1030EST. We look forward to having new officers join our group. We have a few openings for volunteers to contribute to specific PD initiatives.
- ii. Accomplishments
 1. Journeyman Series, "Workplace Bullying and what JOs can do to prevent bullying". CDR Charlene Majersky and Gordon Hughes, PhD presented on this topic on Friday, March 8th. There were 46 JOs who took part in the call (46 peak callers).
 2. Winter JOAG journal included PD-C Article from 2012 Journeyman Series with RADM (ret) Williams, Demonstrating Corps Value and Leadership
- i. **Recruitment and Retention Committee: LCDR Krista Pihlaja & LT Samantha Spindel**
 - i. Current Activities/Updates
 1. Two articles awaiting finalization for inclusion in JOAG Journal.
 2. Increased communication with DCCPR: 1) Awaiting response regarding Corps-wide distribution of Retention Survey, 2) Re-aligning Online Career Resources Subcommittee aims to be in line with DCCPR's needs.
 3. Chairs are working on the bi-annual R&R report and will be disseminated soon.
 - ii. Accomplishments
 1. Career Fair Information Subcommittee sent out career fair list for March and April
 2. JOAG R&R website has been updated
 3. The COSTEP Non-Select Recruitment Subcommittee met with DCCPR regarding this year's COSTEP programs.
 - j. **Welcoming Committee: LCDR Cathleen Shields & provided by LCDR Bobo (non-VM)**
 - i. Current Activities/Updates
 1. January 2013: 35 - officers, February: 40-officers, March 2013: 37- officers
 - ii. Accomplishments
 1. A draft copy of the JOAG poster has been forwarded for review. Currently, no one from the COF committee is planning to attend the conference; therefore there is a need for someone who is planning to attend the conference to possibly take the poster to the conference or perhaps the poster can be shipped to an Officer who lives in the Arizona area and is planning to attend the conference.
 2. Staffing at Open House and Graduation has been going well
 - a. Officers are scheduled up to June
 3. Proposal for OBC Open House has been approved and discussed with the Committee during 01 Feb meeting
 4. Working in collaboration with the EHOPAC to develop a document similar to the New Officer Guide
 5. Next Meeting 7 June 2013 at 1400
 - a. CALL IN NUMBER: 712-432-0111; PASSCODE: 228673#

IV. Workgroup/Program Reports

- a. **Forward Thinking Workgroup: LCDR Joel Nelson**
 - i. No update at this time.

b. Historian Workgroup: LT David Schwab

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Shutterfly account has been established to upload photos. It appears you will need to have a Shutterfly account.

V. Agency/Organization Reports

a. CAD-Advisory Group: LCDR Martin Guardia provided by LT Tilghman

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Last meeting was held on 3/21/2013
2. The current ~1000 applicants (submitted to DCCPR by 12/31/2011) now have until the May 31, 2013 to find positions and get a form 1662 (personnel action) from an Agency securing a position.
3. CAD orders are now getting out to the Agency Liaisons and new officers to attend OBC four to eight weeks ahead of time instead of sometimes only a few days to a week ahead of time.
4. DCCPR does not start the medical or security process until a form 1662 has been submitted by an Agency confirming that an applicant has accepted a position.
5. Future general (non-medical/dental/DoD MOU) applications will be accepted later in 2013, but only as the needs are identified by the Agencies for specific categories positions. These applications will be accepted through Direct Access (DA) as DA will eventually be used for all future applications.
6. The current sequestration process is NOT anticipated to affect any of the DCCPR CAD process. Applicants are still moving through the commissioning process, OBC courses are still being scheduled and filled by new officers and they still plan to accept new applicants (non-medical/dental/DoD MOU) later in 2013.
7. The security clearance backlog in the commissioning process has been resolved with the help of new employees hired who are dedicated to this specific work on the security clearances process.

b. COF Board: LCDR Eva McLanahan

i. No update at this time

c. DCCPR: LCDR Tracy Powell

i. No update provided

d. MOLC: LT Tala Hooban provided by LT Tilghman

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. BCOAG- community outreach activities ongoing, will participate in Race for the Cure. Participated in OBC Open House and will participate in graduation ceremony.
2. HOAC- 5 community outreach activities at COF. The charter is undergoing revisions.
3. MOLC Awards Ceremony: May 22, 2013 1215 - 1330

VI. PAC Liaison Reports

a. Dental Category: LCDR Lori Snidow

- i. The Dental PAC will be releasing a new CV format on the DePAC website in the coming weeks. Early reports from the DePAC chair CAPT Deborah Smith indicate that it will be more streamlined and without the dreaded table format that has been the subject of dental officer frustration for the past several years.
- ii. National Oral Health Council will be hosting a free CDE webinar on dental medication use during pregnancy on Feb 27, 2013 at 1400 EST. Contact CAPT James Schaeffer at james.schaeffer@ihs.gov for more information.
 - 1. The National Interprofessional Initiative on Oral Health and the National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants Foundation recently released a new video entitled Answering the Call: Joining the Fight for Oral Health that discusses the for all healthcare providers to address oral health with their patients with an emphasis on prevention. The video is a Telly Award winner, and can be found at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wjdDFsazRWg>. Additional resources can be found at <http://www.niioh.org/resources>.
 - 2. Smiles for Life is another organization that is promoting oral health education across all healthcare disciplines. Free CME credit can be obtained by completing their online course on oral health, which can be found on their website at <http://smilesforlifeoralhealth.org/>.
- iii. Finally, the infection control case involving Dr. Scott Harrington in Tulsa has made headlines nationwide and raised many concerns and questions with our patients. It is important to note that the vast majority of duty stations for PHS dental officers are accredited by external organizations such as the Joint Commission, Det Norske Veritas, or AAAHC which ensures a higher level of infection control accountability. Nevertheless, dental officers as well as other officers serving at stations with dental clinics are strongly encouraged to review their facility's infection control policies and procedures so that we are well prepared to reassure our patients and comfortably answer any questions they may have.

b. Dietitian Category: LCDR Mitchel Holliday provided by LCDR Kari Irvin

- i. Accomplishments
 - 1. **OBC Mentoring-** The DietPAC has begun a new process within the category to provide information on Officer Basic Course (OBC) to new officers that are called to active duty. The DietPAC is encouraging its newest OBC graduates to be an “unofficial” mentor for the OBC process to the next officer that will be entering OBC.

c. Environmental Health Category: LCDR Eva McLanahan

- i. Current Activities/Updates
 - 1. The EHOPAC sponsors four awards to honor outstanding environmental health professionals: The John C. Eason, The Edward (Ted) Moran, the John G. Todd, and the Thomas C. Crow awards. Commissioned Officers and Civil Service personnel are eligible for these awards. Nomination packets for the four awards are available. **Individuals may be nominated by officers or civil service personnel. You do not have to be an environmental health officer to nominate! **Nominations must be submitted to CAPT Gaunce (jgaunce@cdc.gov) by 12:00AM EST Sunday April 21, 2013.** Please see the Award and Recognition Subcommittee page at ehopac.org.

For additional information, contact CAPT Jean Gaunce, Chair, EHOPAC Awards and Recognition Subcommittee, at (404) 639-4614 or via email at jgaunce@cdc.gov.

2. All EHOs are welcome to join our bi-monthly EHOPAC meetings. Remaining meetings for this calendar year will be held 1300-1500 eastern time on June 11, August 13, October 8, and December 10.
- ii. Accomplishments
 1. Our website, www.ehopac.org, is continually being updated with pertinent information for our category. Subcommittees will be adding more information about their projects soon. You can find contact information for current voting members of the EHOPAC and Subcommittees on this site.
 2. EHOPAC released a Training Resource Excel Worksheet includes links to over 150 resources to help enhance and strengthen your professional and interpersonal skills. The Worksheet will be updated monthly on the EHOPAC website. This also contains information useful to officers of other categories.
 3. Our category also has two Facebook pages which have been growing rapidly. The first is www.facebook.com/pages/US-Public-Health-Service-Environmental-Health-Officers/180811921960576 which is a page for anyone interested in the EHO category. It is an open page, anyone can “like” it and follow to see job announcements and other interesting EHO/USPHS activities. The second page is www.facebook.com/groups/101483319904462/ and is for current EHOs only. You must request membership and one of the site owners will approve. We have 117 EHOs on this page. Feel free to join!

d. Engineer Category: LT Samantha Spindel provided by LT Tilghman

- i. Current Activities/Updates
 1. Engineer backlog has been cleared and application process will open up this June. All applicants' files will expire in May if they have not obtained a 1662 by then.
 2. Next Engineer newsletter will highlight Engineer's Week and an EPAC new member profile
 3. Rules subcommittee: compiling facts and opinions regarding whether or not to institute the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam as a pre-commissioning requirement or after the 3-year probationary period. Please provide any comments to CDR Ramsey Hawasly (Ramsey.hawasly@ihs.gov).
- ii. Accomplishments
 1. Engineer survey results: 419 engineers in the USPHS currently. We now have a better idea of where these officers are stationed, whether they have their professional engineer licenses, etc.
 2. Updated CV and CEU formats are available. Please visit the website to revise your documents accordingly.

e. Health Services Category: LCDR Elizabeth Garza

- i. Current Activities/Updates
 1. May 23rd: abbreviated PAC meeting will occur during the 2013 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Glendale, AZ. The next HS PAC full meeting is scheduled for June 7th, 1230-1600.

2. HS PAC is seeking members for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2014. A self-nomination form and additional information can be found on the HS PAC Web page at: <http://usphs-hso.org/index.php?q=pac/sub/membership/nominations>. The completed package must be submitted to: LCDR Brett Maycock brett.maycock@dhs.gov by June 28, 2013.

f. Nurse Category: LT Chandra Jolley

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Make sure you are registered for the 2013 Nurse Recognition Day to be held May Friday, May 3rd on the campus of NIH in Bethesda. Deadline to register is April 27th.
2. 2013 Skill Competencies will be held this year at COF in Glendale, AZ. As part of the pre-conference activities, nursing will be able to hone their skill Tuesday, May 21th and again on Category Day May 23rd.
3. The next NPAC meeting will be held April 17th at 1300.

g. Pharmacy Category: LCDR Liatte Krueger

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. The PharmPAC Career Develop Section proudly announces that on Wednesday, May 22nd, the Career Development Section will host the Pharmacy Career Counseling Session at the 2013 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium. Senior pharmacy officers who have served on benchmark committees and/or have mentored pharmacy officers will serve as counselors. These sessions will typically include: pharmacy benchmark review, career checklist, PIR review, CV review, & resource guidance (i.e. CCPMN, Direct Access, OFRD, CCMIS). The Focus will be on personalized guidance for career growth and success. Sessions will be by appointment only and one-on-one for up to 30-minutes. The times for the career counseling sessions will be 0700-0900 and 1245-1445 on May 22, 2013. The specific location at the symposium will be provided at time closer to the time of the symposium. If you are an officer interested in receiving this counseling service, please email CDR Jefferson Fredy at jefferson.fredy@ihs.gov by COB May 17, 2013 for an appointment.
2. The Career Development Section is also seeking Senior pharmacy officers attending the Symposium that are willing to volunteer to serve as counselors. The counselors will provide personalized guidance for career growth and success under the conditions listed above. If you are a Senior officer interested in volunteering, please email CDR Jefferson Fredy at jefferson.fredy@ihs.gov by COB May 17, 2013.
3. Pharmacy officers are cordially invited to join us for an evening of socializing and *esprit de corps* on May 23, 2013 at 6:30 pm at Margaritaville located at 6751 N. Sunset Blvd E109, Glendale, AZ 85305 during the 2013 Symposium. Please RSVP to John.bearden@ihs.gov NLT May 6, 2013.

ii. Accomplishments

1. New PharmPAC Google Fusion Website (<https://sites.google.com/site/usphspharmacyreadiness/>) Has numerous tools to help you, including SmartPhone Apps, Readiness Check Countdown, Dear Jess Column

for personalized assistance, information on the PHS APFT Certificate of Excellence Program (PACE).

h. Physician Category: LCDR Kate Sawyer

i. Accomplishments

1. Due to conflict with COA, the next PPAC meeting has been changed from 21MAY to 04JUN2013 at 1300 EDT. Call in number remains (866)816-2251 or (517)477-5361 with pass code 9700730.

i. Scientist Category: LCDR Scott Steffen provided by LCDR Qiao Bobo

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. Last SciPAC meeting was held on Tuesday, April 2 from 1100-1300
2. The February issue of The Scientist Officer Newsletter was released last month. Our chief scientist officer Captain Sharon Williams-Fleetwood called it “an exceptional piece of work” and shared it with other chief professional officers, receiving positive feedback. The issue includes the first set of articles featuring ways that Scientist officers support the National Prevention Strategy. Here is the link to the February issue of The Scientist Officer Newsletter: <http://www.usphs-scientist.org/Newsletter/Feb2013.pdf>
3. The 2013 call for SciPAC voting membership and nomination form has been released via the Scientist listserv. The submission deadline is May 3, 2013. Interested individuals should submit a one-page cover letter, a CV summary page, and completed SciPAC self-nomination form signed by the officer’s supervisor. Please direct any questions to CDR Nicole Frazer (Nicole.frazer@tma.osd.mil).
4. There is a backlog of 1200 or so prospective officers, including 80 scientist officers, who submitted their application prior to the restrictions on accepting new applications. Officers are requested to forward job announcements appropriate for an O-3 or O-4 scientist to LCDR Matthew Breiding (dvi8@cdc.gov)
5. The “SciPAC Mentor of the Year” Award program is being developed by the SciPAC Mentoring subcommittee in response to an anonymous survey conducted by the subcommittee for SciPAC members.
6. Scientist officers LCDR Jessica Cole and LT John Pesce gave a presentation regarding instructions and advice on how to order the new ODU uniform. Slides are available.
7. Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, May 7, 2013 @ 1100–1300 EST. Call-in number: 1-877-691-9937, code: 4549026.

j. Therapist Category: LCDR Cathleen Shields provided by LT Tilghman

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. New JOAG Therapists: February - Narisa Ann Tappitake; March - Michael Krok, Rachel Sargeant, and Raul Leija

k. Veterinarian Category: LCDR William Lanier

i. Current Activities/Updates

1. The Veterinary Category publishes a monthly newsletter called "Vet Bites", including a section called "Veterinarians for Vitality", which is a monthly snapshot

2. The Veterinary Category recently updated its bylaws and charter.
3. We are celebrating the 100th birthday of RADM Steele, who founded the Veterinary Category.